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SATURDAY
JULY 10, 1954

Tommy came to see me this morning, bearing telegrams and news.

Have started on Orestes Ferrara's Le XVI^e Siècle Vu par les Ambassadeurs Vénitiens, translated from the Spanish. Phil Bonsal knows Ferrara well and thinks highly of him as an historian. He was born Italian, became a Cuban citizen, has been active in politics and literature there, and was at one time Ambassador to the United States. My only previous familiarity with his writings was a passing interest in his defense of Pope Alexander VI as a much maligned character. He was eloquent in describing the famous Borgia as a creature of light, wisdom and magnanimity.

Tommy and I are worried over the ratiocination of the Anglo-American working group in London, which is devising a program to separate the contractuals from the EDC. The British manifest a tendency to regard the alternative to EDC as German membership in NATO with discriminations applied to Fedrep. If the French were seized of any such intention, negotiations would be insisted upon and would be endless. Although personally absolutely opposed to any course involving the revival of a German national army and General Staff, I feel the only alternative to EDC for presentation to the French is admission of Fedrep to full membership in NATO without discriminations. The French will not accept this; consequently they will be forced to a vote pro or contra EDC. This is the Benelux, also Adenauer's, reasoning. We should follow it and not accept any temporizing British thesis of deviation.

We went to Saint Brice this afternoon, where I was a witness at the wedding of Leila de Talleyrand's daughter to the young Comte de Rochambeau, whose parents I know well -- they are descendants of ~~Rochambeau of Revolutionary fame, a good~~ soldier who contributed more to our cause than did Lafayette -- heretical doctrine for the history books.

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We arrived at four o'clock, and with an interval out for the church ceremony, stayed until midnight. There were hundreds of people in the Talleyrands' treasure laden house. I dined at Leila's table with the Duke of Windsor, Liliane de Rothschild, Ambassador Jebb, and Marie de Mouchy. Later, Margaret Biddle joined us. Ali Mackintosh, the father of the bride, whom I had not seen for years, was there, as well as the Rudolph de Traffords, Baba Metcalfe -- [redacted] beautiful -- and others from London. Josephine Forrestal, looking somewhat distraught, had flown over from Ireland.

We spent the night at Cécile de Rothschild's house near the Oise river, about fifteen miles from St. Brice. Marie Louise Bousquet, one of the Castellanes, Charles de Gramont, and a young cousin of Cécile's were there. The house enjoys a magnificent prospect of the river plain, and one imagines oneself hundreds of miles from Paris.

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